



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/820,589 | 03/30/2001 | James T. Dollins | GP-300750 | 5685 |

7590 10/06/2005

ANTHONY LUKE SIMON
GENERAL MOTORS CORP - LEGAL STAFF
MAL CODE 482-C23-B21
P O BOX 300
DETROIT, MI 48265-3000

EXAMINER

CHENG, JOE H

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
|----------|--------------|

3715

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 09/820,589 | Applicant(s) DOLLINS ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Joe H. Cheng | Art Unit 3713 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 May 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. In response to the telephonic Interview on August 9, 2005, claims 1-3 are pending.

Moreover, after carefully reconsidered of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action in view of applicant's argument with respect to the prior art of Worden (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0149934 A1), the arguments have been fully considered and are persuasive, hence, the finality of that action is withdrawn and an Office action as followed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-3 as best understood are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bowman-Amuah (U.S. Pat. No. 6,332,163 B1). The broadly claimed structure can be interpreted as the method for providing communication services over a computer network system of Bowman-Amuah. Figs. 1-195 of Bowman-Amuah broadly discloses the process learning aid comprising the integrated tool (see column 36, lines 51-54, column 37, lines 9-20, column 47, lines 37-41) including the model of the business process (see column 126, lines 7-24) which having stages defined by a series of roles and tasks linked to an application system (see from column 128, line 41 to column 130, line 26) having the interface (see column 28, lines 29-36), wherein the business process defined the progression of information by the series of roles and

Art Unit: 3713

tasks to guide the learner through a task to achieve a result (see column 70, lines 66-67, from column 117, line 61 to column 120, line 48) to provide and to explain the option of selecting process function categories or related supplementary function categories, and to demonstrate the action necessary to complete the task through at least one of graphical, audio or textual materials via the interface (see column 54, lines 36-44). See from column 99, line 53 to column 101, line 50, from column 110, line 50 to column 117, line 49, from column 117, line 52 to column 122, line 12, from column 129, line 18 to column 132, line 67, from column 145, line 19 to column 146, line 53, column 147, lines 56-63, from column 215, line 47 to column 221, line 64, and from column 252, line 8 to column 312, line 17.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Doyle (U.S. Pat. No. 5,233,513) - note Figs. 1A-74;

Summers (U.S. Pat. No. 6,236,955 B1) - note Figs. 1-23;

Rippert, Jr. et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0117759 A1) - note Figs. 1-21f;

Myrick et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0143470 A1) - note Figs. 1-50F;

Quinones (U.S. Pat. No. 6,904,449 B1) - note Figs. 1-46.

Response to Amendment

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

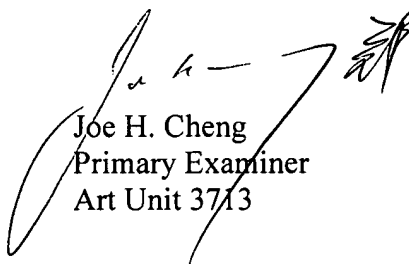
Art Unit: 3713

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe H. Cheng whose telephone number is (571)272-4433. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue.- Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xuan Thai can be reached on (571)272-7147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Joe H. Cheng
September 28, 2005



Joe H. Cheng
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3713